श्री यशवंत सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, म्यांमार के विदेश मंत्री मेरे आमंत्रण पर अभी भारत आए थे, और कई वर्षों के बाद, आठ-नौ वर्षों के बाद यह एक अवसर आया, जब म्यांमार के विदेश मंत्री भारत की यात्रा पर आए। हम लोगों की बातचीत बहुत अच्छी हुई। उसमें हमने बोर्डर के सवाल पर भी विचार किया, इल्लीगल ट्रेड के सवाल पर भी विचार किया, इनसर्जेंस ग्रुप जो आपरेट कर रहे हैं दोनों तरफ से, उसके उपर भी विचार किया मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहूंगा कि इस तरह हमारे संबंधों में सुधार हो रहा है, गहराई आ रही है, मित्रता बढ़ रही है। हम इन सब मामलों पर बहुत तेजी से संयुक्त कार्रवाई कर रहे है। और जब हमारी बैठक विदेश मंत्री, म्यांमार के साथ हुई थी तो उसमें जो सीमा का प्रश्न है, जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा, जैसे ट्रेड का है, स्मगलिंग का है, रोजमर्रा की घटनाओं का है, उन सबके बारे में उन्होंने एक चार स्टेज फार्मूला सजेस्ट किया जैसे ज्वाइंट बाउंड्री कमिशन, पहले से बना हुआ है। उन्होंने कहा कि स्थानीय स्तर पर भी सम्पर्क हो, उसके उपर के स्तर पर सम्पर्क हो, ज्वाइंट बाउंड्री कमिशन में हो और फिर कुछ मामला हो तो विदेश मंत्रियों के स्तर पर उस पर बातचीत हो जाए। यह उन्होंने विचार रखा है और उसके अंतर्गत हम भारत सरकार में उस पर विचार कर रहे हैं और आगे कैसे इसको सुविचारित ढंग से किया जाए, इस पर हम कार्रवाई करेंगे। लेकिन मैं इतना बताना चाहता हूं कि म्यांमार की भारत के साथ जो सीमा है, उस पर डीमारकेशन न होने से आपस में कोई मतभेद नहीं है, कोई कन्फलिक्ट सिचुएशन नहीं है, ऐसा मानकर नहीं चलना चाहिए। दोनों देशों के बीच में मित्रता है और हम बार्डर को सही ढंग से मैनेज कर रहे हैं।

Widening of NHs in Uttar Pradesh

*327 SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the sections of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh where work for widening is presently going on;

(b) by when the work on these sections is likely to be completed, section-wise; and

(c) the sections o the National Highways in the State where similar work is proposed to be taken up next?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) On-going widening works in Uttar Pradesh alongwith their targets are as given in the Table below:

Sl. No.	Widening works	Length in Kms	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)	Target for completion as per contract*
(i)	NON-NHDP ROUTES			
1.	Widening to 4 lanes kms. 0 to 4.30 of NH-25 in Lucknow city.	4.300	4.53	March, 2003 (physically completed)
2.	Widening to lanes kms. 491.50 to 494.80 of NH-24 in Lucknow city	3.300	5.91	May, 2003 (85% Completed upto December, 2002)
3.	Widening to 4 lanes of Lucknow-By pass on NH-24A	10.790	73.73	October, 2004
(ii)	NHDP ROUTES			
1.	Agra-Shikohabad (NH-2) km. 199.66-km. 250.50	50.830	367.49	March, 2005
2.	Shikohabad-Etawah (NH-2) km. 250.5 to Km. 307.5	59.020	261.22	March, 2005
3.	Etawah Bypass (NH-2) Km. 307.5-Km. 321.1	13.600	89.50	October, 2003
4.	Etawah-Rajpur (NH-2) Km. 321.1-393	72.825	348.44	March, 2005
5.	Sikandara-Bhaunti (NH-2) Km. 393-Km. 470	62.000	323.62	August, 2004
6.	Kanpur-Fatehpur (NH-2) Km. 70-483 (0)-Km. 38	51.500	495.35	March, 2005
7.	Fatehpur-Khagra (NH-2) Km. 39-Km. 11.5	77.000	372.40	July, 2004
8.	Khaga-Kokhraj (NH-2) Km. 115_Km. 158	43.000	151.70	February, 2004
9.	Handia-Varanasi (NH-2) Km. 245-Km. 317	72.000	286.00	July, 2004
10.	Varanasi-Mohania (NH-2) Km. 317-329 (0)-Km. 0-65	76.000 (55 in UP)	467.90	March, 2005
11.	Lucknow-Kanpur section NH-25 Km. 21.80 to Km. 44.00	22.200	94.91	November, 2003

Sl. No.	Widening works	Length in Kms	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)	Target for completion as per contract*
12.	Lucknow-Kanpur Section of NH-25 Km. 44 to Km. 59.5	15.500	50.02	April, 2003
13.	Lucknow-Kanpur section (NH-25) km. 59.50-75.50	16.000	51.28	March, 2003
14.	Lucknow-Bypass (connecting NH-25 & 28 *via* NH-56) passing through Lucknow city	22.850	185.52	August, 2004
15.	Agra Dholpur section (NH-3) from Km. 24.00 to 41.000 (7 Km. length + 10 Km. in Rajasthan)	17.000	76.000	August, 2003

* The contracts have provisions of bonus for early completion. With close monitoring, early completion upto 6 months ahead of schedule is expected.

(c) The remaining works on North-South and East West corridor in a length of 714 km. and 84 km. on Golden Quadrilateral will be taken up next. The schedule completion date for these works is December, 2007.

SHRI LALIT SURI: Sir, from the answer of the hon. Minister it seems that the road widening work on the highways is going on only for about 20 Kms. I would like to know whether it is due to financial constraints, which is normally there in such projects. If so, is the toll-tax being collected on the National Highways, where the road widening has taken place? What are the criteria of collecting toll-tax? How long will it be collected?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI: I do not know how the hon. Member is saying that only 20 Kms. road-widening work is going on. I have given an Annexure here, in which I have given the details of all the roads where widening work is going on. Presently, 692.28 Kms. four-lane work going on in Uttar Pradesh. Out of which about 18 kms. is being done by the PWD, and the rest is being done by the NHAI. There is no shortage of funds. We are providing all the funds. Incidentally, each kilometre of widening, from two to four lanes, takes about Rs. 3-5 crores. Funding for the Prime Minister's NDHP is not a problem. Of course, funding problem is there for normal National Highways. The second point of the hon. Member was with regard to toll-tax. The instructions or the notifications for imposing tolling, or, what it should correctly be called, the 'user-fee', was notified as far back as in 1996. As per that, the Government

of India is entitled to collect the user-fee for all National Highways. However, we are presently collecting user-free only for the four-lane roads, which have been completed. The amount, to be collected, had also been notified, much earlier, in that notification. And, as per that, user-fee collection is linked to the wholesale price index. The user-fee is ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI LALIT SURI: Sir, my second supplementary is that is there any proposal, like Pune-Bombay Expressway, for Uttar Pradesh, being such a big State, to connect big cities, like Allahabad, Kanpur, Agra, Lucknow, etc.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI: Sir, So far as the provision for big lanes is concerned, Uttar Pradesh has got a total kilometerage of 4942 Kms. of National Highway, out of that, 1631 kms. forms part of the National Highway Development Project, which is under the Prime Minister's programme. This part of 1631 kms. is, now, going to be done. Apart from this, there is to separate programme for construction of any expressway.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PREMCHAND GUPTA: How is he connected with Uttar Pradesh! (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He always works on highways. (*Interruptions*)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, yesterday, my question on 'women' was very much appreciated, and that became a national subject. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the South and the East-West corridors of 714 kms. would be taken up next. I would like to know when it would be taken up. What would be its approximate value? Though it has been mentioned that it would be completed by 2007, but it has not been mentioned as to when it would be started. Secondly, how much aid is expected from the World Bank and the ADB?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI: Sir, as far as the North-South corridor is concerned, we have already stated that work on 714 kms. is already going on in Uttar Pradesh. The total length of the North-South, East-West corridor is already going on in Uttar Pradesh. The total length of North-South, East-West corridor, in the country, is 7300 kms. The length of North-South is 4000 kms. The length of the East-West corridor is 3,300 kms. And, the work on that is also going on as per schedule. Major work will start by the middle or end of the next year.